



# Voting Information News

March 2002 ☞ Vol. 12, No. 3

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## Voting Assistance Officers

### “To Do” This Month:

- ✓ Plan your 2002 voter training sessions early enough to ensure that citizens in states with early primary elections will be able to take part in the democratic process. Remember that many states allow absentee voters to register and/or request absentee ballots at the beginning of the calendar year.
- ✓ Make sure you have an adequate supply of voting materials on hand. If you do not, order now through normal supply channels (see Sept. 2001 VIN at [www.fvap.ncr.gov](http://www.fvap.ncr.gov)).
- ✓ Remind citizens that most states require the submission of an FPCA every calendar year to vote in elections and they must send in an updated FPCA each time they change their mailing address.

**A roundup of voting news from the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP)  
For voters, potential voters and those who assist voters.**

## UOCAVA: Who is covered?

The *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act* (UOCAVA) requires that the states and territories allow certain groups of citizens to register and vote absentee in their state of legal residence in elections for Federal office.

While most VIN readers are familiar with the absentee voting procedures outlined by the UOCAVA, questions sometimes arise as to who is covered. Here is a brief description of the four citizen categories covered.

### 1. Member of a Uniformed Service on active duty.

For the purposes of the UOCAVA the Uniformed Services are the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard of the United States, the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service, and the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. This also includes students at the U.S. Military Academy, U.S. Naval Academy, U.S. Air Force Academy, and the Coast Guard Academy. These citizens are covered both in and out of the U.S.

### 2. Members of the Merchant Marine.

A member of the Merchant Marine is defined as an individual (other than a member of a Uniformed Service or an individual employed, enrolled, or maintained on the Great Lakes or the inland waterways) employed as an officer or crew member of a vessel documented under the laws of the United States, or a vessel owned by the U.S.; or enrolled with

the U.S. for employment or training for emergency relief service of any such vessel.

### 3. A spouse or dependent of an active duty Uniformed Service or Merchant Marine member.

Uniformed Services spouses and dependents are covered both in and out of the U.S.

### 4. Overseas Voters.

These include:

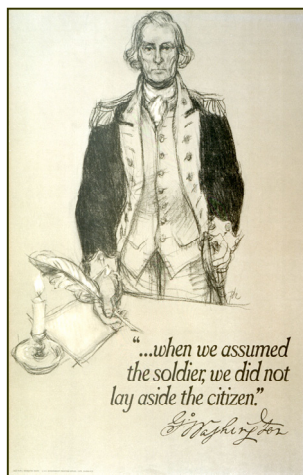
(a) Uniformed Service voters who, by reason of active duty or service, are absent from the United States on the date of the election involved;

(b) A person who resides outside the U.S. and is qualified to vote in the last place in which that person was domiciled before leaving the U.S.; or

(c) A person who resides outside the U.S. and, but for reason of such residence, would be qualified to vote in the last place in which the person was domiciled before leaving the U.S.

The above mentioned citizen's last place of domicile must be in one of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, or American Samoa. ☑





*"I believe that every man in uniform is a citizen first and a serviceman second, and that we must resist any attempt to isolate or separate the defenders from the defended."*

*- Richard Nixon,  
at the Air Force  
Academy,  
June 4, 1969*

## Call the FVAP Toll-Free from Overseas

When voting assistance is unavailable locally, please call the Federal Voting Assistance Program. During non-business hours, citizens may leave a message. When doing so, please leave sufficient information to allow us to get back to you in a timely manner (please include what country you are calling from, a complete telephone number including international prefixes, and e-mail address if available.) Remember there is one toll-free number from the United States and Canada:

### 1-800-438-VOTE (8683)

ANTIGUA	1-877-8333886
AUSTRALIA	1-800-1-27668
BAHAMAS	1-8778333886
BAHRAIN	800-687
BARBADOS	1-800-534-2104
BELGIUM	0800-76834
BERMUDA	1-8778333886
BRAZIL	000-814-550-3742
CAYMAN ISLANDS	1-877-833-3886
CHILE	800-201844
CHINA	10-800-120-0241
COLUMBIA	980-915-4710
COSTA RICA	0800-0120204
DENMARK	80-882544
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	1-8001561554
FINLAND	0-800-1-19515
FRANCE	0800-914727
GERMANY	0800-1007428
GREECE	00800-12-5268
GUYANA	1-800-8778333886
HONG KONG	800-908809
HUNGARY	06-800-13824
INDONESIA	001-803-011-2583
IRELAND	1-800-55-5189
ISRAEL	1-800-9203230

ITALY	800-874729
JAMAICA	1-800-666-3819
JAPAN	00531-120076
KOREA	00798-14-800-4399
LUXEMBOURG	0800-9087
MALAYSIA	1-800-80-3709
MARSHALL ISLANDS	1-877833-3886
MEXICO	001-8778333886
NETH ANTILLES	001-8778333886
NETHERLANDS	0800-0249769
NEW ZEALAND	0800-441388
NICARAGUA	001-800-2201349
NORWAY	800-15501
PANAMA	001-800-5071351
PHILIPPINES	1-800-1-114-0831
POLAND	0-0-800-1112-561
PORTUGAL	08008-12816
RUSSIA	8-108-0020283011
SINGAPORE	800-1203425
SOUTH AFRICA	080-09-97300
SPAIN	900-931912
ST. VINCENT	1-877-8333886
ST. KITTS/NEVIS	1-877833-3886
SWEDEN	020-79-6876
SWITZERLAND	0800-895623
TAIWAN	0080-13-9817
THAILAND	001800120663305
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	1-800-934-7340
TURKEY	00800-151-0733
UNITED KINGDOM	08-001-698035
URUGUAY	000-413-598-2492
VENEZUELA	8001-2913 ☑

## Voting Residency Guidelines for Uniformed Services

During the course of an election year, the FVAP receives numerous queries from Uniformed Service personnel regarding their state of residence for voting purposes. While the issue can be complex, the following general guidelines for helping **members of the Uniformed Services, the merchant marine, and their family members** determine their state of legal residence for voting purposes.

First, you should keep in mind that Uniformed Services personnel and their family members may not arbitrarily choose which state to declare as their legal voting residence without meeting the state's residency requirements. Generally:

- ✓ One must have or have had physical presence in the state for some specified amount of time and meet the residency requirements.
- ✓ One may only have one voting residence at a time, but may change residency each time he or she is transferred to a new location. One must take specific actions to change residency; it cannot be done accidentally. Specific actions that may change your voting residence include

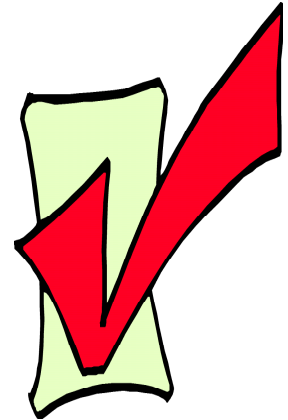
registering to vote, registering a car, or obtaining a driver's license.

- ✓ When voting residence has been changed, a person may not revert to a previous residence without reestablishing physical presence.

"Home of Record" should not be confused with voting residence. "Home of Record" is the address a military member had upon entry into the Service. It does not change. One's "Home of Record" can remain the voting residence until one chooses to establish a voting residence elsewhere.

Dependents of active duty military personnel may have different voting residences. A spouse does not automatically assume the voting residence of the active duty member upon marriage. The spouse must individually meet the same residency criteria as military personnel. Minors typically assume the voting residence of either parent and can establish voting residence elsewhere after meeting the criteria as well.

*Note: Voting residency guidelines for Overseas Citizens were discussed in the February 2002 VIN. ☑*



*"Actions Speak Louder  
Than Words ... Vote!"*

*- Katherine Breidenstine,  
U.S. Army  
1995 Slogan Contest*

### Voting Action Officers

#### Department of State: Office of American Citizen Services

Chief VAO: Mr. Jack Markey, **tel:** (202) 736-4937, **fax:** (202) 647-6201, **E-mail:** markeyjd@state.gov  
Deputy VAO: Mr. Stuart Denyer, **tel:** (202) 647-3495, **fax:** (202) 647-6201, **E-mail:** denyersr@state.gov

#### Service Voting Action Officers

Dept. of the Army: Mr. James Davis **tel:** (703) 325-4530 **DSN:** 221-4530; **fax:** (703) 325-4532  
**DSN fax:** 221-4532; **E-mail:** davisj@hoffman.army.mil

Dept. of the Navy: Mr. John Hillis **tel:** (901) 874-4369, **DSN:** 882-4369; **fax:** (901) 874-2689,  
**DSN fax:** 882-2689; **E-mail:** p662b@persnet.navy.mil, www.persnet.navy.mil/nvap

Dept. of the Air Force: TSgt Sophia Barnard **tel:** (210) 565-2563, **toll free:** 1-800-558-1404, **DSN:** 665-2563;  
**fax:** (210) 565-2543, **DSN fax:** 665-2543; **E-mail:** Sophia.Barnard@afpc.randolph.af.mil

Marine Corps: GySgt Kenneth B. Warford **tel:** (703) 784-9511, **DSN:** 278-9511;  
**fax:** (703) 784-9828, **DSN fax:** 278-9828; **E-mail:** warfordkb@manpower.usmc.mil

U.S. Coast Guard: MCPO Jeff Creighton **tel:** (202) 267-1636, **fax:** (202) 267-4823;  
**E-mail:** jcreighton@comdt.uscg.mil

**All of the above can also be reached through the DoD Voting Information Center and the FVAP website.**

### ***Federal Voting Assistance Program***

Department of Defense  
Washington  
Headquarters Services  
1155 Defense Pentagon  
Washington, DC  
20301-1155

PHONE:  
(703) 588-1584  
DSN 425-1584

FAX:  
(703) 588-0108  
DSN 425-0108

VOTING INFORMATION  
CENTER:  
(703) 588-1343  
DSN 425-1343

TOLL FREE:  
1-800-438-VOTE (8683)

E-MAIL:  
vote@fvap.ncr.gov

We're on the Web!

www.fvap.ncr.gov

# **Vote!**

## **More on UOCAVA**

The UOCAVA permits absent Uniformed Services voters and overseas voters to use absentee registration procedures and to vote by absentee ballot in general, special, primary, and run-off elections for Federal Office. In addition, most Uniformed Service members may be allowed to vote a full ballot (Federal, state, and local offices). Some states have expanded these laws to allow other overseas citizens to vote a full ballot as well. See the *2002-2003 Voting Assistance Guide* for state-specific guidelines. In addition, there are many United States citizens who have never resided in a state and under current law are not entitled to vote. These are usually first or second-generation citizens who are subject to U.S. income tax and all other requirements of citizens. Except for the fact that they have never resided in a state, they would be eligible to vote in

elections for federal office. Nine states (GA, IA, NY, OK, OR, RI, TN, WI, WV) have passed legislation allowing these citizens to use the voting residence of either parent.

In accordance with the UOCAVA, the mission of the FVAP is to inform and educate U.S. citizens worldwide of their right to vote and to foster voting participation. In carrying out these responsibilities, the FVAP provides information and materials to these citizens to help ensure their enfranchisement and promote understanding and participation in the democratic process.

The FVAP hopes that this has answered many of your questions about coverage under the UOCAVA. If you have further questions or require additional assistance, please contact your Voting Assistance Officer or the FVAP. ☑

### ***About Our Organization...***

*Voting Information News* provides information for citizens and Voting Assistance Officers and is published monthly by the FVAP.

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